

News



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UTC FUEL CELLS' PC25 PROVIDING CLEAN POWER FOR FORD'S NORTH AMERICAN PREMIER AUTOMOTIVE GROUP HEADQUARTERS IN CALIFORNIA

SOUTH WINDSOR, Conn., Dec. 6, 2001 – UTC Fuel Cells, a unit of United Technologies Corp. (NYSE: UTX), today announced that a PC25TM fuel cell power plant has begun providing power for Ford Motor Company's North American Premier Automotive Group headquarters in Irvine, Calif.

The 300,000-square-foot facility houses the North American headquarters for Aston Martin, Jaguar, Land Rover and Volvo, as well as the global headquarters for Lincoln Mercury. The PC25 power plant, which produces 200 kilowatts of electricity and 900,000 Btus of heat, provides 25 percent of the building's power. Additionally, the heat is used to produce hot water for the facility.

"This installation is yet another example of how UTC Fuel Cells' PC25 power plants can help meet California businesses' needs for reliable and clean energy," said William Miller, president of UTC Fuel Cells. Miller noted that current economic conditions in California make fuel cells a viable economic alternative to grid power.

UTC Fuel Cells has shipped 20 PC25s to California since 1992 when production of the unit began.

(more)

The Ford facility is a “green building,” meaning it is designed to minimize the building’s impact on the environment, including air quality. The building is the first in Orange County and only the third in California to receive Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

Fuel cells are an environmentally friendly means of producing electrical energy. A fuel cell combines hydrogen, often derived from hydrocarbon fuels such as natural gas, and oxygen to produce electricity, heat and water. Because fuel cells operate without combustion, they are nearly pollution free.

While a traditional system produces as much as 25 pounds of pollutants to generate 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity, the PC25 power plant produces less than an ounce.

UTC Fuel Cells has delivered more than 225 fuel cells to customers in 19 countries on five continents. Combined, the units have surpassed 4.5 million hours of operations. PC25 systems provide clean, reliable power at a range of locations, including a New York City police station, a major postal facility in Alaska, a credit card processing system facility in Nebraska and two breweries in Japan.

UTC Fuel Cells is the world leader in fuel cell production and development for commercial, transportation, residential and space applications. UTC Fuel Cells is the sole supplier of fuel cells for U.S. manned space missions and the only company currently producing a commercially available fuel cell power plant.

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